

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DOHA 00534 120705Z

11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

ORM-02 /053 W

----- 076249

R 120531Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1521

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

UNCLAS DOHA 0534

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PLO, QA, LE

SUBJ: PALESTINE NATIONAL FUND MEETING IN QATAR

1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF PALESTINE NATIONAL FUND, PLO'S TREASURY DEPARTMENT, HAS BEEN MEETING IN DOHA FOR PAST FEW DAYS. LEBANESE CRISIS APPARENTLY ACCOUNTS FOR VENUE OF MEETING. ON MAY 10 AMIR RECEIVED FUND DIRECTOR WALID KAMAHAWI WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A LOCAL PLO REP YASIN SHARIF. AFTER AUDIENCE, KAMAHAWI STATED TO PRESS THAT HE HAD GIVEN AMIR MESSAGE FROM ARAFAT, AND PRAISED AMIR'S SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIAN CAUSE.

2. ON MAY 9 QATARI DAILY "AL ARAB" CARRIED INTERVIEW WITH KAMAHAWI IN WHICH HE EXPLAINED OPERATIONS OF FUND AND CLEARLY INDICATED PLO STRAPPED FOR MONEY. HE REPEATED THANKS TO AMIR OF QATAR FOR ASSISTANCE, AND APPEALED TO OTHER ARABS TO SUPPORT FUND.

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3. ACCORDING KAMAHAWI, LEBANESE CRISIS AND "PALESTINIAN UPRISING ON WEST BANK" HAD PLACED HEAVY BURDEN ON FUND. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE SAID FUND PAYING HOSPITAL BILLS FOR THREE THOUSAND PALESTINIANS AND REQUIRED TO SUPPLY FOOD TO REFUGEES. RE OTHER EXPENSIVE ACTIVITIES, KAMAHAWI CITED INFORMATION AND MILITARY AREAS. RE FORMER, HE CLAIMED THAT PLO HAD ESTABLISHED "40 NEW OFFICES" IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, HE SAID, FUND BEARING COST OF SENDING PALESTINIAN STUDENTS ABROAD FOR STUDY.
PAGANELLI

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